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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/45/901)]

45/253. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 43/219 of 21 December 1988 and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/83 of 27 July 1990,

Having examined the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 1/ including the introduction to the plan, which is a key integral element in the planning process, and the note by the Secretariat, 2/ containing the consolidated summary of the comments and recommendations made by Member States and intergovernmental bodies since 1988 on the draft introduction to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997,

Having considered the note by the Chairman of the Fifth Committee reporting on the review of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 by the other Main Committees of the General Assembly, 3/

Having considered also the relevant parts of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1990, 4/

1/ The proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 was issued in fascicles, under the symbol A/45/6.

2/ A/45/279.

3/ A/C.5/45/42.

4/ A/45/3 and Add.1 and 2.

Having considered further the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its thirtieth session, 5/ the report of the Committee on Conferences 6/ and the relevant parts of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 7/

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989 8/ and on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives, 9/

I

Medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

1. Adopts the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, together with the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Committee on Conferences and the additional conclusions and recommendations contained in the annex to the present resolution, taking into account the views of the Main Committees of the General Assembly;

2. Reaffirms that the medium-term plan, as adopted, is the principal policy directive of the United Nations and shall serve as a framework for the formulation of the biennial programme budgets;

3. Endorses the methodological conclusions and recommendations on the format and content of the plan made by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

4. Reiterates the importance of regulations 3.5 and 3.6 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation regarding the scope and format of the plan and reaffirms the need for the Secretary-General to review the issues related to the full implementation of the regulations with a view to ensuring proper coverage and presentation of all the activities of the Organization;

5. Emphasizes the importance of the consultative process with Member States, which should be expanded to include as many programmes as possible;

5/ A/45/16 (Parts I and II).

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 32 and addendum and corrigendum (A/45/32 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1).

7/ A/45/617.

8/ A/45/218 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

9/ A/45/204.

6. Also emphasizes the need for the sectoral, regional and central reviewing bodies, in particular the Main Committees of the General Assembly, to improve the quality of their review of the programmes;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in order to facilitate the review mentioned in paragraph 6 above to improve the quality of his proposals to those bodies as well as the timeliness and the procedure of their submission;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in order to achieve greater concision, clarity, analytical rigour and prospective orientation of the plan;

9. Invites Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure their active participation in the relevant intergovernmental bodies for the review of the medium-term plan;

10. Welcomes the new simplified programme structure of the plan, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the review and analysis of the structure, format and content of the plan, without reducing the content of the programmes and with a view to enhancing the usefulness of the plan as a tool for managing the activities of the Organization, and taking into account the observations made by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit the results of the review, together with the revisions to the plan, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its thirty-second session, and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

12. Takes notes of the overall priorities reflecting broad trends as derived from the mandates of the legislative organs, contained in the introduction to the plan, as well as the views expressed by Member States thereon, in particular concerning the maintenance of international peace and security, the economic development of developing countries, the economic recovery and development of Africa, the environment and international drug control;

13. Endorses the priorities at the subprogramme level proposed by the Secretary-General, together with the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and those indicated in the annex to the present resolution;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to implement the plan with these priorities, taking duly into account the views expressed by Member States;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with regulation 3.18 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation to bring the decisions of the General Assembly on priorities to the attention of Member States and the governing boards of the voluntary funds, in order to facilitate coherence and co-ordination in the implementation of the plan;

16. Reiterates the need to implement fully the provisions of regulation 3.3 (c) and rule 103.3 (j) and (k) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation regarding estimates of resources in the plan;

17. Requests the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to continue to study the questions arising from the effects of extrabudgetary resources on the implementation of the plan and the linkage between the medium-term plan and the programme budgets;

18. Also requests the Secretary-General to develop methods and procedures permitting the better use, for the preparation and the revisions of the medium-term plan, of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit and the external auditors, and those on evaluation and programme performance, as formulated by the competent intergovernmental organs;

II

Programme performance report

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989 8/ and the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 22 and 23 of its report; 7/

2. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1988-1989;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its thirty-first session and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a report on the methodology for monitoring and reporting the programme performance of the United Nations;

III

Application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives; 9/

2. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination contained in its report on the work of its thirtieth session, on the report of the Secretary-General on the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives and urges the Secretary-General to develop methods and procedures to ensure that evaluation is fully integrated into the programme planning cycle of the Organization;

IV

Co-ordination

1. Emphasizes the importance of the plan, in particular its introduction, as an instrument for co-ordination, in accordance with regulation 3.7 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

2. Invites the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures in order to enhance the role of the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board in the co-ordination of the preparation and implementation of the plan;

3. Stresses again the need to ensure appropriate co-ordination of the calendar of meetings of the various intergovernmental review bodies, with a view to enabling them to consider effectively the relevant proposed programmes of the medium-term plan;

V

Other conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

Notes with satisfaction and endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its thirtieth session which have not otherwise been approved by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

72nd plenary meeting
21 December 1990

ANNEX

Conclusions and recommendations on major programmes, programmes and subprogrammes of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Programme 1. Good offices and peace-making, peace-keeping, research and the collection of information

1. Recognizing that the Fifth Committee was not in a position to examine such substantive issues as peace-making, the General Assembly decides to defer consideration of those issues to the attention of the competent organs and intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations, without prejudice to the functions of the Secretary-General under the Charter of the United Nations.

2. In paragraph 1.17, insert a reference to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 44/164 of 15 December 1989.

3. Insert references to General Assembly resolutions 41/70 of 3 December 1986 and 44/164 as mandates under programmes 35, 36 and 37.

Programme 2. Political and Security Council affairs

1. Assign high priority to subprogramme 1, Security Council and political committees activities.

2. Modify the text of paragraph 2.11 (b) concerning political missions so as to make its meaning clearer.

Programme 7. Disarmament

1. The third sentence of paragraph 7.5 should read:

> Anxieties were fuelled by the ever-rising number of nuclear warheads and delivery systems, by several other factors, including technological advances in weapons design, and by increasing arms transfers.

2. In the fourth sentence of paragraph 7.8, for to discourage the proliferation of ballistic missiles read to achieve the objective of non-proliferation in all its aspects, as mentioned in the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade.

3. In the sixth sentence of paragraph 7.8, for with an emphasis being given to read including.

Programme 8. Peaceful uses of outer space

At the end of the second sentence of paragraph 8.9, insert taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular the developing countries.

Programme 9. International law

1. In the second sentence of paragraph 9.33, after drug-trafficking insert and drug-abuse.

2. Not applicable to English.

3. The last sentence of paragraph 9.39 should read:

> It is also foreseen that the issues arising from the question of international criminal jurisdiction, including the possibility of establishing an international criminal court or other international criminal trial mechanism, will be considered further and analysed.

4. Insert the proposals of the Sixth Committee. 10/

10/ A/C.5/45/42, annex III.

Programme 11. Overall issues and policies, including co-ordination

1. Insert a reference to General Assembly resolution 44/215 of 22 December 1989 as a mandate for subprogramme 1.

2. Not applicable to English.

3. In line 3 of paragraph 11.18 (b), for alleviation read eradication.

Major programme IV. International economic co-operation for development (programmes 12-24)

The idea of the interrelationship between international peace and security and development, implied in the proposal to change the title of the major programme to read "Maintenance of peace and security and international economic co-operation for development", should be developed further in the context of the revisions to the plan.

Programme 12. Global development issues and policies

1. Assign high priority to subprogrammes 3 and 6 of programme 12 in addition to those proposed by the Secretary-General.

2. Redraft the narrative of the programme so as to reflect the language and ideas of General Assembly resolution 44/212 of 22 December 1989, where relevant.

3. In the second sentence of paragraph 12.4, delete:

> and brought especially acute problems for heavily indebted developing countries

and replace by:

> This placed most of the developing countries, especially the least developed countries, in a particularly grave situation and brought especially acute problems for heavily indebted developing countries.

4. In paragraph 12.23:

(a) At the end of the fifth sentence insert and to promote economic development;

(b) At the beginning of the sixth sentence, for growth-oriented adjustment read growth-oriented policy.

5. Replace the first sentence of paragraph 12.36 with the text of paragraph 31 of the Declaration contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990.

6. In programme 12, where appropriate, insert some oth r countries with serious debt-servicing problems.

7. At the end of the second sentence of paragraph 12.65, after management insert and desertification.

Programme 13. International trade

Assign high priority to subprogramme 4, transfer of technology, in accordance with the importance given to the question by the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session.

Programme 14. Development finance, resource flows and external debt

1. In paragraph 14.11, insert a reference to General Assembly resolution S-18/3.

2. Delete the modification to paragraph 14.15 recommended by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in paragraph 166 (c) of its report. 11/

Programme 16. Environment

1. Delete the second sentence of paragraph 16.17.

2. Delete subprogramme 9 and incorporate its content in subprogrammes 10 and 12 of programme 16.

Programmes 19 and 20. Natural resources and energy

Adjust the narrative of programmes 19 and 20 in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

Programme 21. Public administration and finance

Reformulate the narrative of programme 21, taking into account all the relevant mandates adopted until the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, for submission to the Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

Major programme V. International co-operation for social development (programmes 25-29)

The idea of the interrelationship between international peace and security and development, implied in the proposal to change the title of the major programme to read "Maintenance of peace and security and international co-operation for social development", should be developed further in the context of the revisions to the plan.

11/ A/45/16 (Part I).

Programme 29. Crime prevention and criminal justice

1. Redraft paragraph 29.18 so as to reflect the language of the pertinent paragraph of the report of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders calling for a study on the establishment of an international criminal court. 12/

2. Insert in paragraph 29.20 a reference to the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

Programme 31. Regional co-operation for development in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific should reconsider the issue of priority-setting among subprogrammes of programme 31 in the light of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

Programme 33. Regional co-operation for development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Delete the second sentence of paragraph 33.5.

Programme 35. Promotion and protection of human rights

1. In line 2 of paragraph 35.2, after instruments insert such as, inter alia, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

2. In paragraph 35.3, delete the last two sentences.

3. (a) Insert a new paragraph 35.4 reading:

35.4 The full enjoyment of human rights is related to economic and social development. Moreover, there can be no lasting security or sustained economic and social progress without respect for human rights. Numerous situations of tension and conflict have been rooted in disregard for the human rights of individuals, minorities, groups or entire peoples. Development will not be assured, nor its fruits equitably shared, if it is not securely anchored in respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

(b) Renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

4. Divide former paragraph 35.24 into three subparagraphs dealing respectively with:

(a) Migrant workers;

12/ See A/CONF.144/28, chap. I, sect. C, resolution 25, annex, para. 31.

(b) Minorities;

(c) Discrimination or intolerance based on religion or belief.

5. At the end of the first line of former paragraph 35.41, after realization of insert the right of people to self-determination and.